

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2006

Introduced by Assembly Member Hill

February 17, 2010

An act to add Section 6220 to the Government Code, relating to governmental linguistics.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2006, as introduced, Hill. Governmental linguistics.

Existing law requires each department, commission, office, and other administrative agency of state government to use plain, straightforward language in a state agency document.

This bill would require a state agency document to neutrally phrase a reference to a religious institution and prohibit referencing an institution of a particular religious faith, unless the context requires otherwise.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 6220 is added to the Government Code,
- 2 to read:
- 3 6220. (a) When a department, commission, office, or other
- 4 administrative agency of state government writes a state agency
- 5 document, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 6219, in which
- 6 a reference is made to a religious institution, the document shall
- 7 be phrased in neutral language, and shall not specifically refer to

- 1 an institution of a particular religious faith, unless the context
- 2 requires otherwise.
- 3 (b) A department, commission, office, or other administrative
- 4 agency of state government shall comply with the requirements
- 5 of subdivision (a) with each new version of a state agency
- 6 document. Nothing in this section shall require reprinting of a state
- 7 agency document.